Production of watches

2279. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a short supply of indigenous watches which encourages the smuggling of watches into the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to increase indigenous production of watches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):(a) and (b) With a view to increase indigenous production of watches, reduce the cost of indigenous watches and to discourage smuggling of watches into the country, Government has already taken the following steps:—

(i) A capacity of 22 million numbers has been approved in the organised sector. The production of indigenous watches in the organised sector had increased from 6 millions in 1985 to 7 millions in 1986. The Govt. may consider a few more schemes on merits.

(ii) The current Import Policy provides for liberal import of watch components.

(iii) A number of foreign collaboration proposals with internationally reputed watch manufacturers have been approved.

(iv) In February 1985, Government announced a package of concessions to the watch industry including reduction in excise duty and concessional rate of customs duty on the import of raw materials, components and machinery used in the manufacture of wrist watches.

(v) For accelerating the growth of Digital Electronic watches, Department of Electronics in May, 1987, decided to allow manufacture of Digital Electronic Watches by the organised sector.

Commissioning of Mangalore Refinery

2280. SHRI VEERSHETTY MOGLAPPA KUSHNOOR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Mangalore Refinery is likely to be commissioned; and

(b) what is the amount spents so far on the acquisition and other work connected with the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Government have approved the preparation of the Detailed Project Report for the establishment of a refinery in Mangalore. The details would be known only after the DPR is prepared.

(b) Till 30-9-1987, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has spent Rs. 1.1 crores on this project.

Imort of optic fibre cables and lines system

2281. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed and order for optic fibre cables and optic lines system in Allahabad with NKT Electronics of Denmark; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) the names of other companies which have submitted tenders for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, against global tenders floated by Hindustan Cables Ltd. a Central Govt. Undertaking, for the Fibre Optics Project, 4 firm had sent their offers—(i) M|s. NKT, Denmark, (ii) M|s. STC, UK; (iii) M|s. Nippon Electric Co. Japan and (iv) M|s. Nichimen Corporation of Japan. The offers of M|s. NKT and M|s. STC were found complete and technically acceptable. Based on a techno-economic assessment, the offer

of M|s. NKT was found more suitable. HCL and ITI have signed a collaboration agreement with M|s. NKT in respect of this Project proposed to be set up at Naini, Allahabad.

Instructions to public undertaking for .. dealing with foreign suppliers

2282. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all public sector undertakings under his Ministry which are involved in production and R&D have been directed to deal directly with foreign suppliers without involving any Indian or foreign agents|middlement and if so what are the details of instructions in this behalf;

(b) whether as a follow-up action thereafter any alternative and effective steps have been suggested to take to take care of timely supply of material, installation, repair and maintenance of critical foreign equipment during the warranty period and also subsequently; and

(c) what has been the impact of Government instructions in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Petrochemical complex at Barauni

2283. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although the Barauni Refinery was set up decades ago, yet no worthwhile efforts were made to set up a petrochemical complex there;

(b) whether the availability of naptha and other industrial infrastructure fully justify the setting up of such a complex;

(c) whether some time back a plan of Rs. 8,000 crores was envisaged to set up a naptha-based complex but nothing was done thereafter; if so, what are the impediments coming in the way for the implementation of the above scheme; and

(d) by when it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) (a) to (d) The report of the Working Group constituted to examine the possibility of setting up of a petrochemical complex at Barauni in Bihar has just been received.

NTPC Project at Chandrapur

2284. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the up-to-date progress of the N.T.P.C. project to be set up at Chandrapur, Maharashtra;

(b) what is the estimated cost for the setting up of this project; and

(c) what is the exact locaion of the project with details of installed capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The National Thermal Power Corporation are preparing a Feasibility Report, alongwith cost estimates, in respect of setting up a thermal plant of 1000 MW capacity, in the first-stage, at Warora in the Chandrapur district in Mahasrashtra.

Foreign aid for rural electrification

2285. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any aid from any foreign country for